Reserved quota for backward class

*308. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Government financial institution has advertised for vacancies after the Central Government notification dated 8th September, 1993 that 27% seats are reserved for Backward Classes;

(b) if so, whether 27% reservation quota is maintained;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether all the posts will be re-advertised to maintain the 27% quota for Backward Classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) have reported that they issued advertisements for recruitment to certain posts after the Central Government instructions dated 8th September, 1993 without providing for reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) owing to non-receipt of Government instruction in time. RBI has been advised to readvertise these vacancies after providing for reservations for OBCs in terms of the Government instructions dated 8th September, 1993. In the case of LIC, the further recruitment process has been kept in abeyance and no appointment has been made so far against the advertised vacancies. The LIC has since issued instructions for determining the number of vacancies which ought to have been reserved for OBCs. The OBC vacancies will be advertised by the zonal offices shortly and their recruitment process initiated. Simultaneously, the recruitment process, which has been kept in abeyance in the case of other than the OBC candidates, will also be restarted. The appointment letters will be issued to the OBCs simultaneously with the other candidates so that their seniority does not get affected.

Excise and Customs duty reduction in SSI sector

*310. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government reviewed the consequences of excise duty modifications and customs duty reduction on the Small Scale Sector which constitutes about 60% of the industrial production of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the Small Scale Sector will be affected in its industrial growth and production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Small scale sector contributes about 40% of the industrial production in the country. In the budget 1994-95, the Government have reviewed excise duty exemptions available to various commodities and many such exemptions were removed. Removal of full duty exemptions actually provides a comparative fiscal advantage to a small scale unit because in that case a large unit manufacturing same goods is required to pay duty whereas a small unit can enjoy duty exemptions/concession.

Government have reviewed likely impact of most of the excise duty and customs duty changes made in the budget 1994-95 in the light of various representations received from small scale